

# 16 Pentecost: September 20, 2020

## Gathering

### Prelude

### Opening Hymn: "God Himself is Present"

- 1 God himself is present; let us now adore him and with awe appear before him!  
God is in his temple; all within keep silence, prostrate lie with deepest reverence.  
Him alone God we own, him, our God and Savior;  
praise his name forever!
- 2 God himself is present; hear the harps resounding; see the hosts the throne surrounding!  
"Holy, holy, holy!" Hear the hymn ascending, songs of saints and angels blending.  
Bow your ear to us here: hear, O Christ, the praises  
that your church now raises.
- 3 Light of light eternal, all things penetrating, for your rays our soul is waiting.  
As the tender flowers, willingly unfolding, to the sun their faces holding:  
even so would we do, light from you obtaining,  
strength to serve you gaining.
- 4 Come, celestial Being, make our hearts your dwelling, every carnal thought dispelling.  
By your Holy Spirit sanctify us truly, teaching us to love you only.  
Where we go here below, let us bow before you  
and in truth adore you.

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Faithful God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love for those who revere Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Go and offer forgiveness in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## The Word

### Blessing of the Lector

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Bless Kathy, who will read to us the scriptures. Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what the people of Ninevah did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup> But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup> And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup> And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup> Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup> The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup> But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup> When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

<sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup> Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup> And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

<sup>21</sup> For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup> but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup> Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup> so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

<sup>27</sup> Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup> and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup> For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup> since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.  
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.  
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.  
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: <sup>1</sup> "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup> They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' <sup>9</sup> When those hired about five

o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?' <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Children's Sermon

### Sermon

*Silence for reflection*

### Hymn of the Day: "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling"

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,<br/>"Who will go and work today?<br/>Fields are white and harvests waiting,<br/>who will bear the sheaves away?"<br/>Loud and long the master calls you;<br/>rich reward he offers free.<br/>Who will answer, gladly saying,<br/>"Here am I. Send me, send me"?</p> | <p>3 If you cannot be a watchman,<br/>standing high on Zion's wall,<br/>pointing out the path to heaven,<br/>off'ring life and peace to all,<br/>with your prayers and with your bounties<br/>you can do what God demands;<br/>you can be like faithful Aaron,<br/>holding up the prophet's hands.</p> |
| <p>2 If you cannot speak like angels,<br/>if you cannot preach like Paul,<br/>you can tell the love of Jesus;<br/>you can say he died for all.<br/>If you cannot rouse the wicked<br/>with the judgment's dread alarms,<br/>you can lead the little children<br/>to the Savior's waiting arms.</p>         | <p>4 Let none hear you idly saying,<br/>"There is nothing I can do,"<br/>while the multitudes are dying<br/>and the master calls for you.<br/>Take the task he gives you gladly;<br/>let his work your pleasure be.<br/>Answer quickly when he calls you,<br/>"Here am I. Send me, send me!"</p>       |

## The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## The Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition:*

**A:** Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

## The Peace

**L:** Peace be with you. Remember, God holds us together even when we're apart.

## Invitation to Offering

## Offering Prayer

**P:** Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

## The Meal

### The Great Thanksgiving

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

♪ The Lord's Prayer ♪

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### Invitation to Communion

**P:** We now eat and drink Christ's forgiveness.

The Body of Christ, broken for you.

The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

*All eat bread and drink wine or juice at their seat.*

### Prayer after Communion

**P:** We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## Sending

### Blessing

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**C:** **Amen.**



## Closing Hymn: "Thine the Amen"

- 1 Thine the amen thine the praise  
alleluias angels raise  
thine the everlasting head  
thine the breaking of the bread  
thine the glory thine the story  
thine the harvest then the cup  
thine the vineyard then the cup  
is lifted up lifted up.
- 2 Thine the life eternally  
thine the promise let there be  
thine the vision thine the tree  
all the earth on bended knee  
gone the nailing gone the railing  
gone the pleading gone the cry  
gone the sighing gone the dying  
what was loss lifted high.
- 3 Thine the truly thine the yes  
thine the table we the guest  
thine the mercy all from thee  
thine the glory yet to be  
then the ringing and the singing  
then the end of all the war  
thine the living thine the loving  
evermore evermore.
- 4 Thine the kingdom thine the prize  
thine the wonder full surprise  
thine the banquet then the praise  
then the justice of thy ways  
thine the glory thine the story  
then the welcome to the least  
then the wonder all increasing  
at thy feast at thy feast.
- 5 Thine the glory in the night  
no more dying only light  
thine the river thine the tree  
then the Lamb eternally  
then the holy holy holy  
celebration jubilee  
thine the splendor thine the brightness  
only thee only thee.

## Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

---

## Worship Leaders

The Rev. Emily Beckering, Pastor

Kris Keith, Music Director

Kate Wollenburg, Organist

Addy Kruse, Hymn Leader

Donald Harris, Assisting Minister

Kathy Hirt, Reader

Steve Headley and Linda, Matthew, and Maci Lawson, Peace

### *Copyright Notices:*

“God Himself is Present”: Text st. 3 and 4 © Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”: Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc. All rights reserved.

“Thine the Amen”: Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Music used by permission under ONE LICENSE #726103-A.

*Thank you for worshiping with us today.*

*To give your offering through our website, please visit [stpaulreading.org/online-giving/](http://stpaulreading.org/online-giving/)*

## Our Life Together

For emergency pastoral care, please call the after-hours line at 513-760-5884.

If you have requests for the Prayer Chain, call Penny Huber, 513-931-6420. To remove people from the list, contact the office.

We pray for **Mary and her granddaughter Kyra** (friend of Paul Pieper); **Berkeley** (Carol Curless's great-grandson); **Pr. Lisa Bernheisel**; **Louise Barry**; **Teresa Bell** (former member); **Stephen Black** (Kim Coulehan's nephew); **Bobby** (Christian Lohmeier's friend); **Nancy Bose** (Kathy Hirt's friend); **Brett** (Kings' step-nephew); **Jodie Calhoun**; **Christian**; **Kathy Curless**; **George Demetriades** (Portmanns' friend); **Katie Demopoulos** (Diana Hawkins's niece); **Dick** (Linda Miller's brother); **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson); **Jerry Doan** (Jean Winkle's son-in-law); **Norb Eble** (Portmanns' friend); **Eckerle and Wuestefeld families**; **Lee Erbeck**; **Larry Faulkner** (Freda's son); **Justin Feldman** (Bess Sturgill's father); **Ben Ferguson** (Les Eckerle's cousin); **Micki Ford** (Fords' niece); **Jeanne Fuller**; **Scarlett Gally** (Beth Wernery's great-niece); **Clara Garcia** (Cindy Mayhugh's sister); **Nathaniel Gibson** (Les Eckerle's step-nephew); **Hannah**; **Matthew Harrison** (Seals' neighbor); **Sandy Hatcher** (Linda Holt's sister); **Elain Heskamp**; **Richard Hoffman** (Cindy Mayhugh's brother); **Andrew Horton**; **Ellen Hunter** (Jeni Cathcart's grandmother); **Jo and her daughter** (Jeanne Fuller's friends); **Joan** (Penny Huber's friend); **Kate** (granddaughter of Dennis King's friend); **Dennis King**; **Jay King** (son of Jamie King); **Loretta Kombrink** (Marilyn Portmann's aunt); **Lewis Laine** (Chet Laine's brother); **Richard Lane** (Elinor Schieman's nephew); **Nelson Langefeld**; **Regina Laursen** (Portmanns' friend); **Yvonne Lowery** (St. Paul Players); **Carroll Mayhugh**; **Carroll Mayhugh Sr.** (Carroll Mayhugh's father); **Samantha Mersch** (Mayhughs' daughter, Sarah Papin's sister); **Jessica Mink** (Donald Harris's cousin); **Doris Minton**; **Barbara and Jack Moorhouse**; **Jean Nolte**; **Ervin Oerther** (Portmanns' brother-in-law); **Ann Ohr** (Barbara Moorhouse's cousin); **Richard Osborn** (Betty Pack's brother); **Rosie Osborn** (Betty Pack's sister); **Eric Papin**; **Christian & Suzie Pereira** (Carolyn Koehl's granddaughter & grandson-in-law); **Richard Peterson** (Shirley Harbaugh's brother); **Don Pflieger** (Kings' brother-in-law); **Ginny Pape**; **Linda Perin** (Moorhouses' cousin); **Paul Pieper**; **Faith Pirrmann**; **Pat Popplewell** (Dennis King's friend); **James Savoy** (Jean Winkle's great-grandson); **Shawn Schnetzer** (Sturgills' cousin); **Sheila Schultz** (Betty Pack's friend); **Brenda Schumacher** (Marilyn Portmann's friend); **Shannon and Dane** (friends of Riddle family); **Keith Shupe** (father of Kelly Shupe); **Jason Simpson** (Freda Faulkner's grand-nephew); **Patricia Smith** (Teresa Bell's mother); **Scott Songer**; **Judy Songer** (friends of Jean Winkle); **Crosley Spelman** (Spelmans' grandson); **Jack Spelman**; **Frank Sturgill** (Jim's dad); **Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter); **Teresa** (friend of Marty Lohmeier); **Randy Thaman** (friend of Marie

Calhoun); **Geri Toland** (Carole Replogle's neighbor); **Treasure** (Les Eckerle's cousin); **Ralph Turner** (friend of Dennis King); **Tereasa Vogel** (Freda Faulkner's friend); **Jack Wagner**; **Jeanne Wagner**; **Daryl Wesselman** (Betty Pack's granddaughter); **Jean Winkle**; **Susan Winkle** (Jean Winkle's daughter-in-law).

We pray for those with ongoing health concerns who are unable to come to church every week: **Louise Barry, Jack and Barbara Moorhouse, Jean Nolte, Heather Segar.**

We pray for our armed forces members: **Graham Barton** (Fords' neighbor); **Paul Cordes** (Elinor Schieman's grandson); **Victoria Derry** (Elinor Schieman's great-granddaughter); **Jared Forst** (Jim and Loretta's grandson); **Beau Glenn** (Karen Koehl's son-in-law); **Kylie Hahn** (Gretta Hahn's granddaughter); **Donald Hosea** (Karen Koehl's son); **Samuel McLoughlin** (friend of Cindy Sieckman); **Scott Minton** (Doris Minton's son); **Jobeth Ramirez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Joshua Rodriguez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Trent Schwegman** (cousin to the Erbecks and Fords); **Dustin Silvey**; **Mack Thompson** (Freda Faulkner's grandson); **Alex Wisecup** (son of Nadine and Barry Wisecup).

## Upcoming Events

### **Sunday, September 20**

10:30 am Worship (in-person and livestreamed)

4 pm Zoom Fellowship Time

### **Tuesday, September 22**

4 pm Zoom Bible Study

### **Wednesday, September 23**

Stewardship Team Meeting (Zoom)

### **Sunday, September 27**

10:30 am Worship (in-person and livestreamed)

### **Tuesday, September 29**

4 pm Zoom Bible Study